

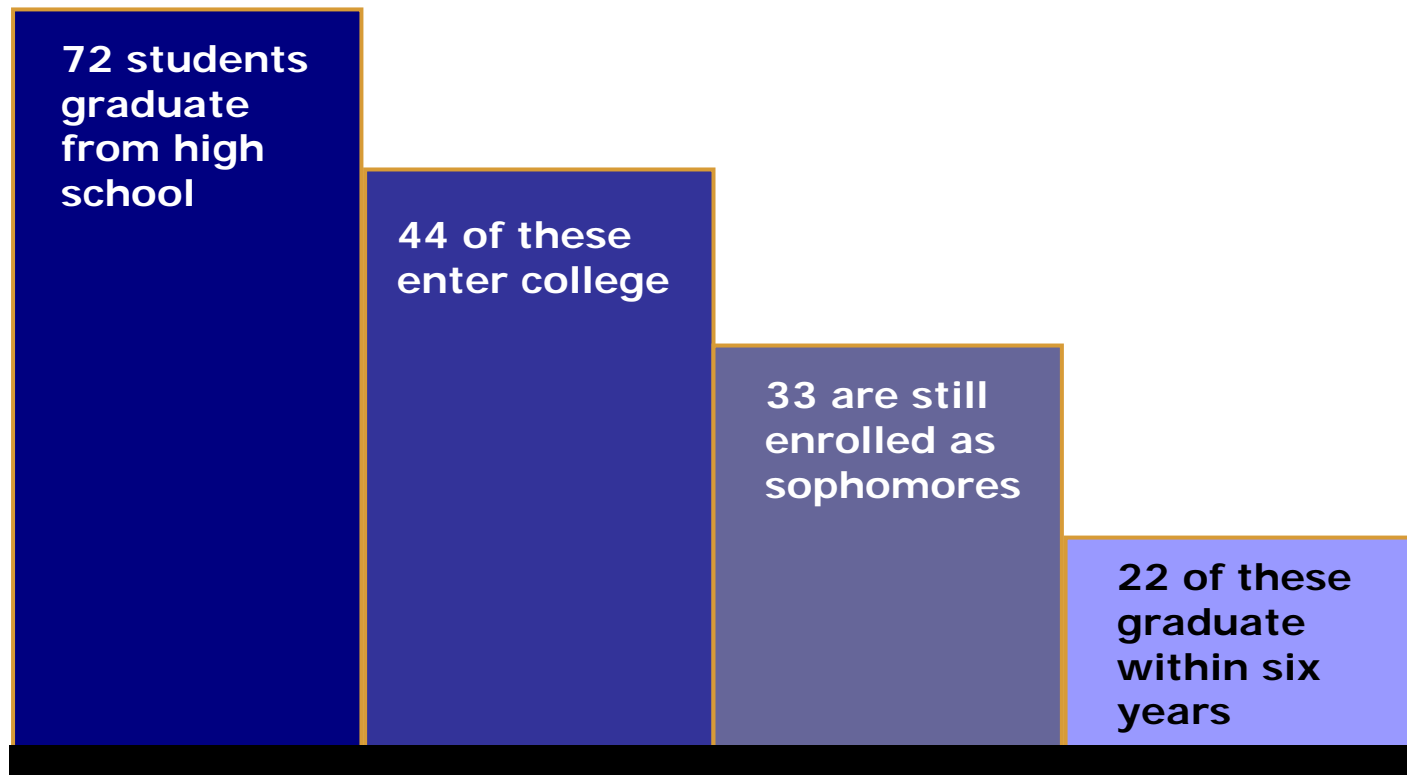


# Indiana High School Dropout Information

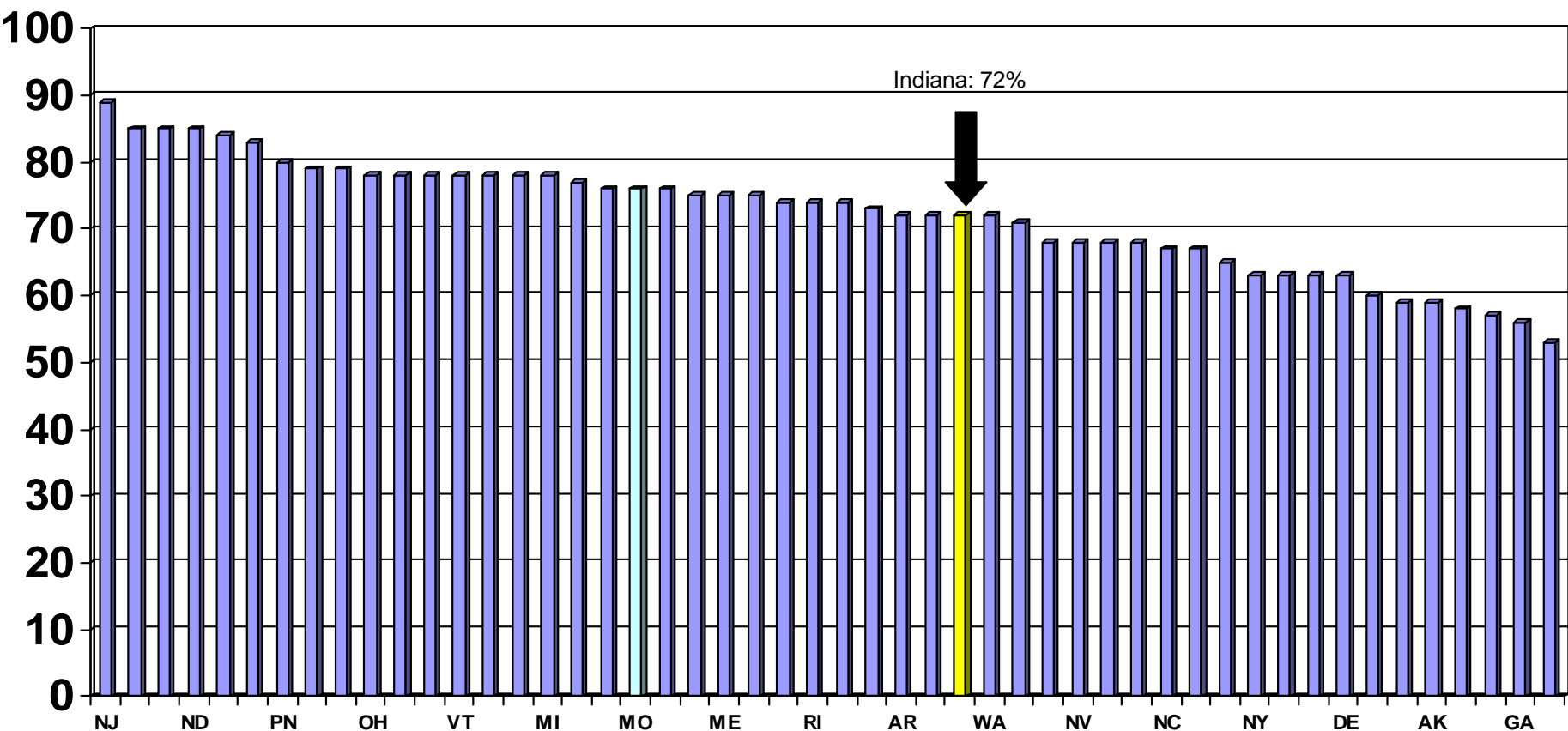
Representative Luke Messer

Presented to Indiana's Education Roundtable, May 31, 2006

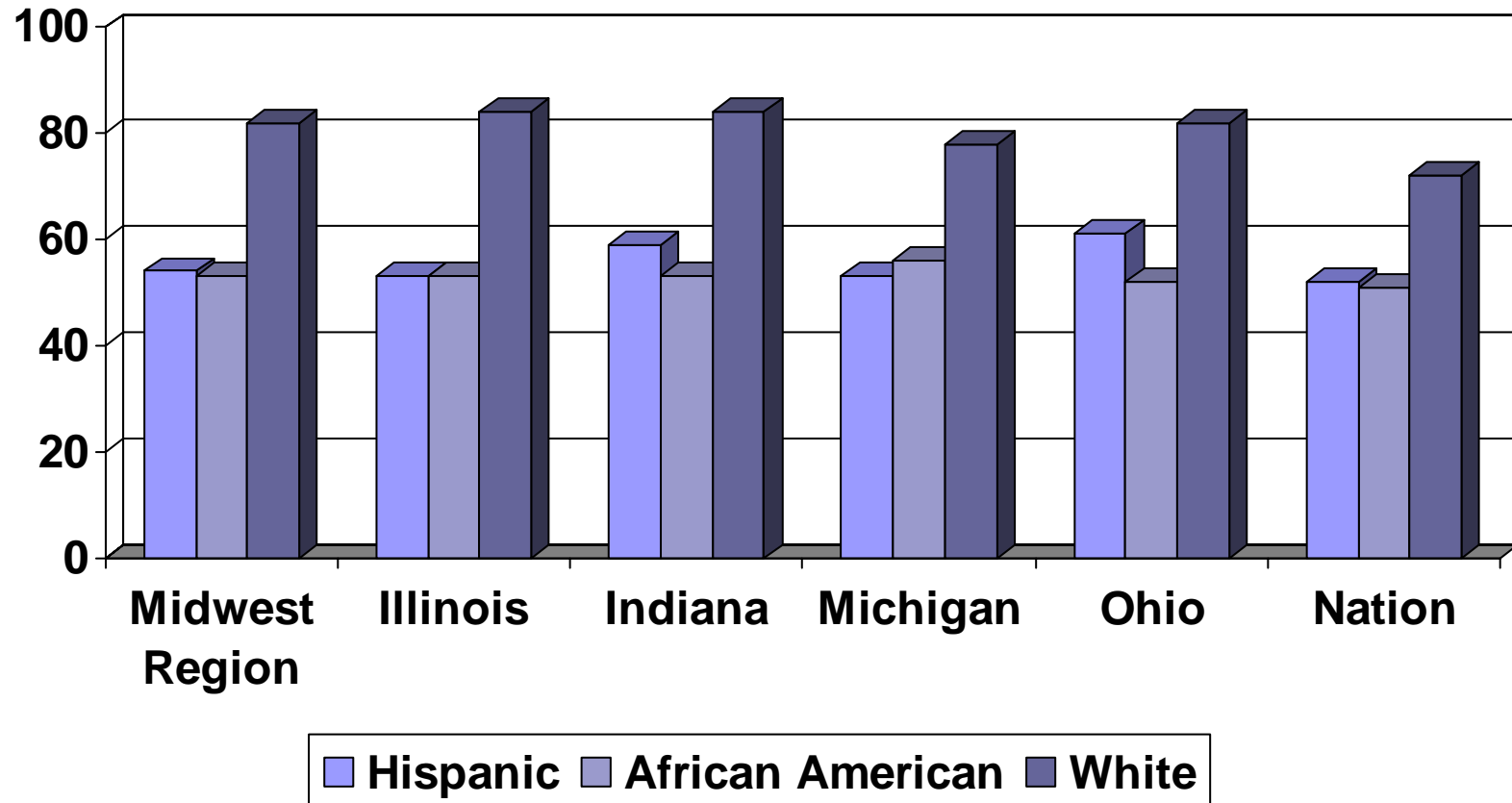
# Of every 100 Indiana 9th graders, only...



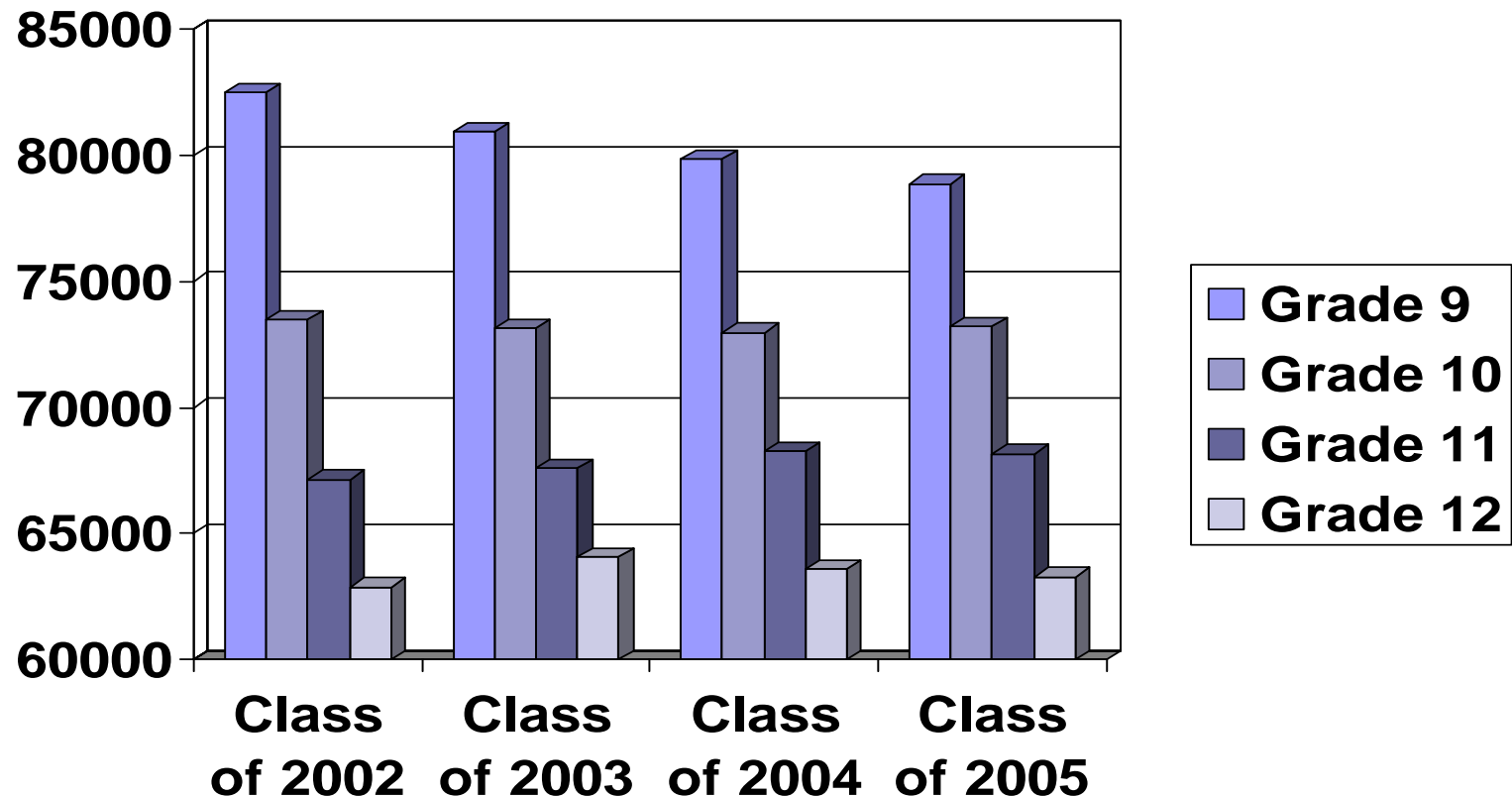
# Public High School Graduation Rates in the United States



# High School Graduation Comparison Rate by State and Race



# Indiana Public High School Enrollment



Source: Indiana Department of Education, 2005

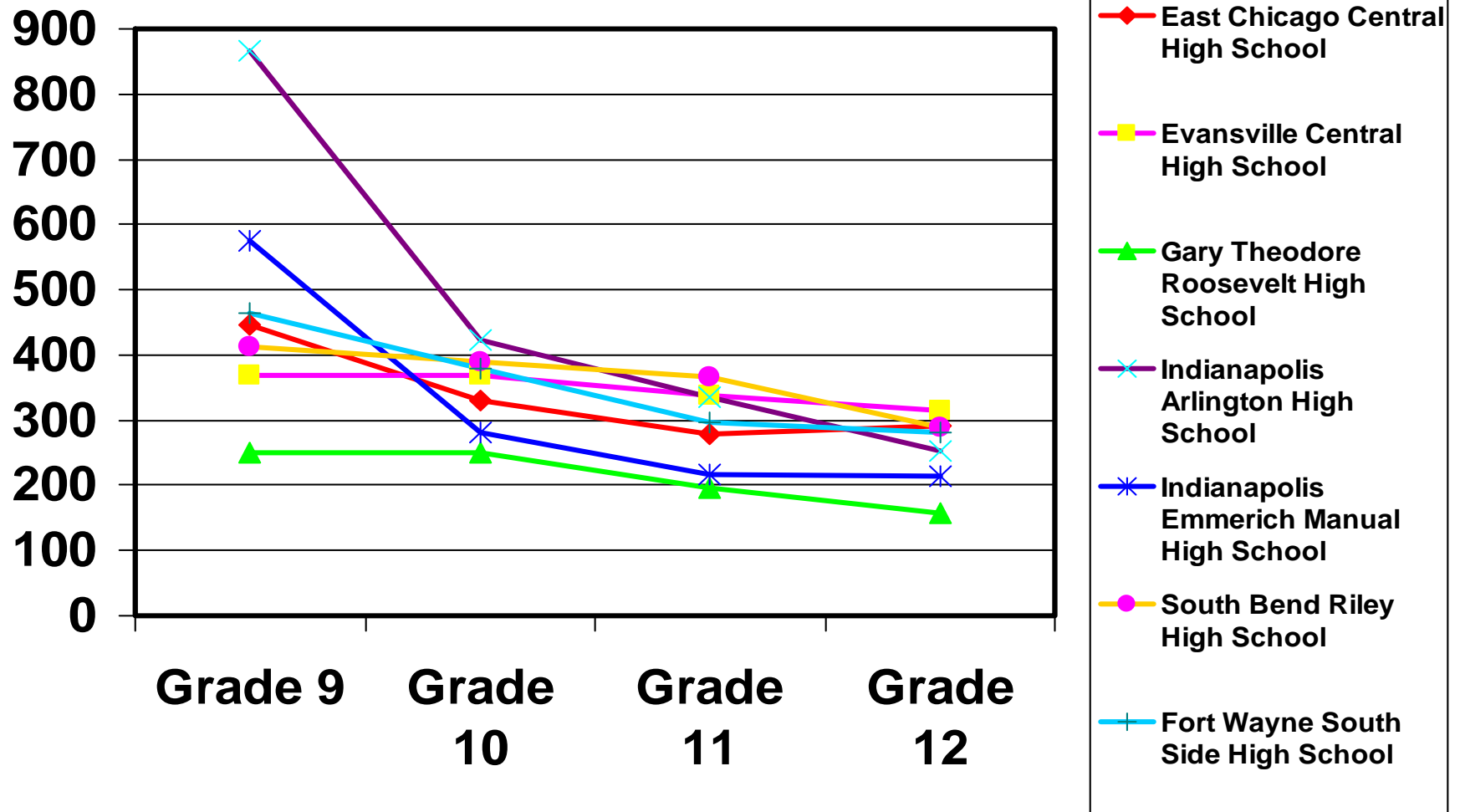
# Who makes it through high school?

## Graduation Rate:

■ African American:	53%
■ Latino:	59%
■ White:	78%
■ Asian:	84%
■ Total:	74%

# Snapshot: Enrollment Trends

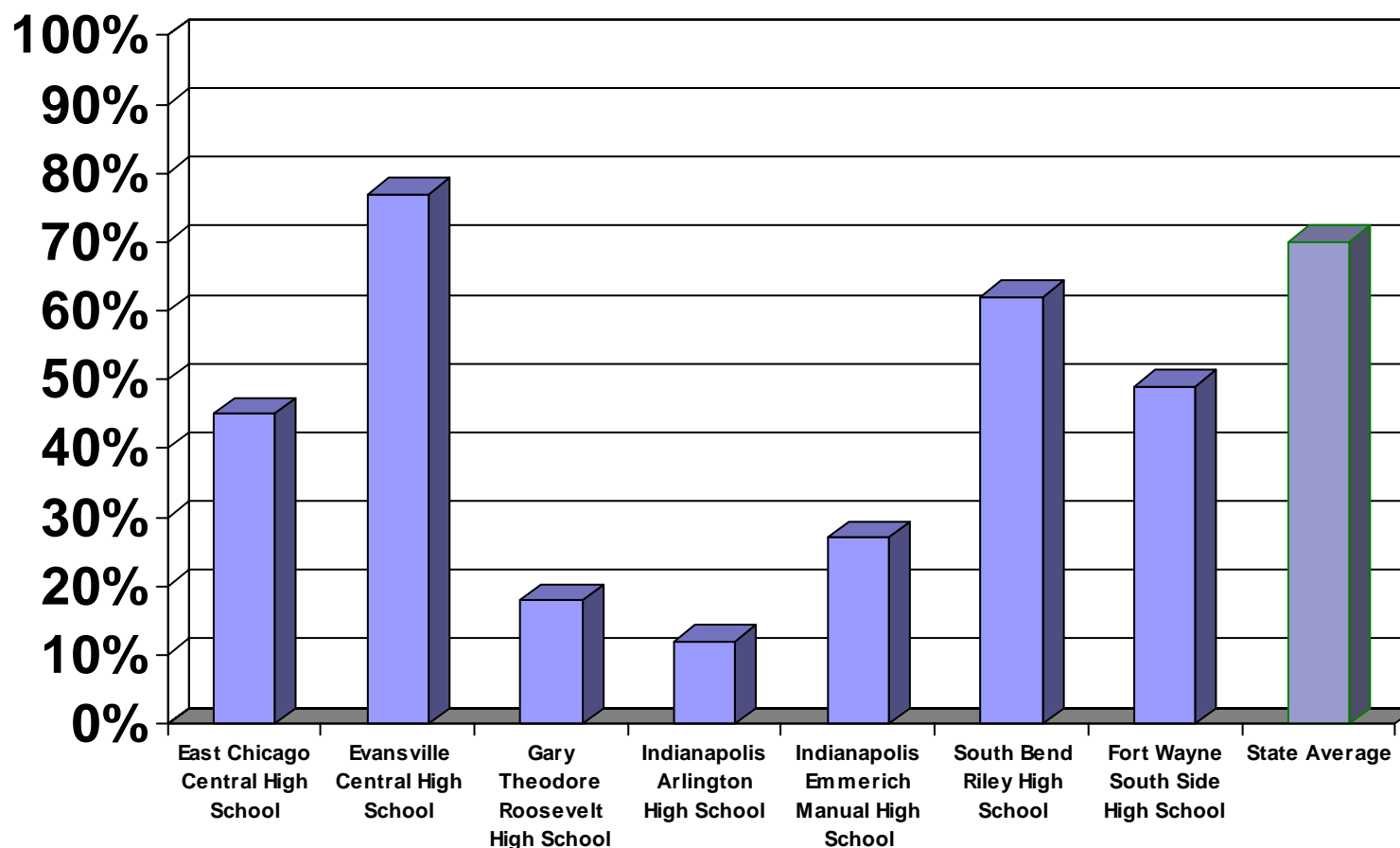
Graduating Class of 2004



# Snapshot: Graduation Rate

Class of 2004

(senior graduates/freshman enrollment)



As computed by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, using data from the Indiana Department of Education



# The Cost of a High School Dropout

Over 25 to 30 years, a dropout student can cost a community as much as **\$500,000** in public assistance, health care, and incarceration costs.

Estimates of the social benefits (social savings from reduced crime only) of a 1% increase in male U.S. high school graduation rates would amount to **\$1.4 billion**.

Completing high school raises average annual earnings by approximately \$7,216. Additional annual Indiana income tax per graduate is \$245 per year or approximately **\$9,800** over the working lifetime per graduate.

# GED vs. HS Diploma

- GED officials say that one in seven HS graduates earn their diploma through GED programs.
  - 41% of them are 19 and under and 37% are between 20-29 yrs. of age
- The military stopped equating the GED with a HS Diploma
  - GED students score lower on the Armed Forces Qualifying Test
  - They also drop out of the military at higher rates
- Wages over a 40-year period:
  - Without a HS Diploma= \$852,000
  - With a HS Diploma= \$1,221,000
- Nobel Prize-winning economist James Heckman and Stephen Cameron found in their study that:
  - GED holders are “statistically indistinguishable” from high school dropouts.

# What Do Indiana Dropouts Think?

Their advise to current and future students.

- “The real world is a lot harder than you think it is.”
- “Just do it, get through it.”
- “You gotta have some kind of education.”
- “You learn the hard way. It’s either sink or swim.”
- “The real world’s a different story than they present it to be on TV.”
- “Can’t just drop out of high school and coast through the rest of life. You’re going to have to get some kind of education sometime.”

*Provided from focus groups conducted by the Indiana Commission for Higher Education, 2005.  
For the complete focus group presentation (including audio),  
visit **[www.che.state.in.us/focusgroups.htm](http://www.che.state.in.us/focusgroups.htm)***



# 2005 Legislation:

## House Enrolled Act 1794, now current law

### **1. Dropout Age**

Clarifies that the dropout age in Indiana is 18 years of age. Between the ages of 16 and 18, students must have the approval of parents and principal to withdraw from school.

### **2. Withdrawal Process**

Financial Hardship--Ensures that students must go through a formal withdrawal process involving the student, parent and principal.



# HEA 1794 cont.

## **3. Driver's License/Work Permit**

Student lose privileges of driver's license and work permit if they drop out before they are 18 years old without financial hardship and/or parent and principal approval.

## **4. Chronic Absenteeism**

Includes chronic absenteeism (missing more than 10 unexcused days from school) in the definition of habitual truant and loss of a work permit.

# HEA 1794 cont.

## 5. School Flex

Creates an alternate program for students in grades 11 and 12 that serves to engage students in relevant learning by allowing them to :

- ☐ Enroll in either a college or technical career education program or;
- ☐ Enroll in employment
- ☐ Provided that the student:
  - Attends school for at least three hours per day
  - Pursues a timely graduation
  - Not be suspended or expelled
  - Pursues course and credit requirements for a general diploma
  - Maintains a 95% attendance rate
- The school still counts the student as a full day student.

# 2006 Legislation: HB 1347

- Requires that a student may only receive permission to drop out of high school for financial reasons or health reasons or with permission of a judge.
- Provides that on the annual school report card, high schools must report numbers of:
  - total suspensions
  - students permitted to dropout by the school
  - work permits revoked
  - driver's permits revoked
  - students in the School Flex program
  - freshman not earning enough credits to become sophomores.

## HB 1347 cont.

- Requires annual review of the student career plan and if a student is not progressing counsel the student about credit recovery options and services available so that that a student may graduate on time.



# HB 1347 cont.

## ■ Fast Track

- Authorizes Ivy Tech Community College, Vincennes and public colleges and universities to offer a high school completion program for students 19 or older or students with the high school's permission.
- A student must also be enrolled a certificate or associate's degree program.
- To complete the program a student must pass an exam demonstrating the student is ready for college level work.
- Credits from high school transfer to college Fast Track program.

# HB 1347 cont.

## ■ Double Up –

- Creates a dual credit program that may be offered by Ivy Tech Community College, Vincennes and by other public colleges or universities.
- Students could earn an associate degree.
- A high school must offer a minimum of two dual credit and two Advanced Placement courses so that a student may meet the requirements for Core 40 with Academic Honors diploma.
- Free and reduced lunch students would receive a tuition waiver from the university.